

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF BLAENAU GWENT**

**REPORT TO: THE PRESIDING MEMBER AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

**SUBJECT: SPECIAL CABINET – 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023**

**REPORT OF: DEMOCRATIC & COMMITTEE SUPPORT OFFICER**

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**PRESENT: Leader/  
Cabinet Member - Corporate Overview & Performance  
Councillor S. Thomas**

**Deputy Leader/  
Cabinet Member – Place & Environment  
Councillor H. Cunningham**

**Cabinet Member – Place & Regeneration  
Councillor J.C. Morgan**

**Cabinet Member – People & Social Services  
Councillor H. Trollope**

**WITH:** Interim Chief Executive  
Interim Corporate Director Social Services  
Corporate Director Regeneration & Community Services  
Corporate Director Education  
Chief Officer Resources  
Head of Partnerships and Governance  
Head of Legal and Corporate Compliance  
Communications, Marketing & Customer Access Manager  
Head of Organisational Development  
Service Manager – Policy & Partnerships  
Corporate Procurement Manager  
Service Manager – Customer Experience & Benefits

## **DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>SUBJECT</u></b>
<b>No. 1</b>	<b><u>SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION</u></b>  It was noted that no requests had been received for the simultaneous translation service.
<b>No. 2</b>	<b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b>  The following apologies for absence were received from:-  Councillor S. Edmunds Chief Officer Customer and Commercial
<b>No. 3</b>	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</u></b>  No declarations of interest or dispensations were reported.
	<b><u>CORPORATE AND PERFORMANCE PORTFOLIO</u></b>
<b>No. 4</b>	<b><u>REVENUE BUDGET 2023/2024</u></b>  Consideration was given to the report of the Chief Officer Resources.  A Leader proposed that sections 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 of Option 1 be accepted and sections 3.1.4 to 3.1.8 of Option 1 be deferred pending further consideration at the Special Meeting of the Council scheduled to be held on Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> February, 2023. This proposal was seconded.  RESOLVED, subject to the foregoing that the report be accepted and <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Members recommended to Council the 2023/24 revenue budget as detailed in the table in paragraph 5.1.15 of the report;</li><li>• provided comment on the outcomes within the overall provisional RSG Settlement and noted the potential for further change in the Final RSG Settlement (paragraphs 2.6 – 2.17);</li></ul>

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- provided comment on the outcomes within the BGCBC provisional RSG Settlement and its impact upon the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (paragraphs 2.18 – 2.26);
  - decisions related to the updated cost pressures and growth items (£3.22m in total) identified in Appendix 2 (paragraphs 5.1.10 – 5.1.16) be deferred for consideration at the Special Meeting of Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023;
  - decisions related to an uplift of £1.5m which equates to 3% increase to the ISB (paragraphs 5.1.17 to 5.1.24) be deferred for consideration at the Special Meeting of Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023;
  - decisions related to the Bridging the Gap proposals delivering £4.18m of financial efficiencies and budget cuts to towards the budget gap (paragraphs 5.1.25 to 5.1.32) be deferred for consideration at the Special Meeting of Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023;
  - decisions related to the use of reserves of £2.5m to balance the budget for 2023/2024 (paragraphs 5.1.33 to 5.1.35) be deferred for consideration at the Special Meeting of Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023; and
  - decisions related to a Council Tax increase of 4% for 2023/24 (paragraph 5.1.7) as per the MTFS assumptions be deferred for consideration at the Special Meeting of Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2023.
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